

Intimations.

MEMOS. FOR MONDAY.

Auctions.
3 p.m.—Auction of Crown Land situated at Sookan Po Valley.

Amusements.
9 p.m.—Harmonist's Grand Circus, at the Recreation Ground (Near the Race Course).

Miscellaneous.
Dividend of £1.10 Stg. on Shares of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, payable.

General Memoranda.

TUESDAY, February 19:
Local Banks close.
Insurance Offices close.

WEDNESDAY, January 20:
Local Banks close.
Insurance Offices close.

THURSDAY, February 21:
Noon.—Meeting of Shareholders of the Geo. Penwick & Co., Ltd., in the Hongkong Hotel.
Goods per *Tamda* unclaimed before Noon, subject to rent.
Goods per *Tamda* not cleared after this date subject to rent.

FRIDAY, February 22:
Goods per *Chilgim* undelivered after Noon this date subject to rent.

MONDAY, February 25:
Noon.—Meeting of Shareholders of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., at the Company's Offices, Queen's Buildings, New Paya.

WEDNESDAY, March 6:
Noon.—Meeting of Shareholders of the Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., at the Office of the Company, Fokder's Street.

THURSDAY, March 7:
3 p.m.—Meeting of Shareholders of the China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., at the Company's Office, No. 2, Queen's Road Central.

Exchange.

HONGKONG, FEBRUARY 16, 1901.	
On London	2 1/2
Bank, New York	2 1/2
On demand	2 1/2
30 days' sight	2 1/2
4 months' sight	2 1/2
Credit, 4 months' sight	2 1/2
On Peking	2 1/2
On demand	2 1/2
Credit, 4 months' sight	2 1/2
On New York	48 1/2
On demand	48 1/2
Credit, 4 months' sight	48 1/2
On Shanghai	1 1/2
On demand	1 1/2
Credit, 4 months' sight	1 1/2
On Hongkong	1 1/2
On demand	1 1/2
Credit, 4 months' sight	1 1/2
On Manila	1 1/2
On demand	1 1/2
Credit, 4 months' sight	1 1/2
On Yokohama	1 1/2
On demand	1 1/2
Credit, 4 months' sight	1 1/2
Gold, 100 fine (per 100)	£51.75
Silver (per 100)	£25.4

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE Attention of Advertisers is drawn to the Latest Hours for receiving Advertisements and Corrections to Advertisements:—
Advertisements and additions to advertisements on Page 1 and 4, should be sent to this Office not later than 10 a.m. New Advertisements should be sent in before 3 p.m.
BAIN & REID.
CHINA MAIL Office, Dec. 1900.



A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

WINE MERCHANTS.

Established A.D. 1841.

CLARETS.

CLARET	Per Case	Per Bottle
ST. ESTEPHE	£6.00	£7.50
ST. JULIEN	9.00	9.00
LA ROSE	12.96	13.62
CHATEAU HAUT BRION	18.00	10.20
CHATEAU MOUTON	21.00	22.20
CHATEAU PONTET	25.00	—
CHATEAU LA TOUR	30.00	—
CHATEAU RAUZY	42.00	—
CHATEAU LATITE	48.00	—

These CLARETS are bought direct from the leading French growers. The lowest price is of exceptional value and guaranteed to be the genuine product of the juice of the grape.

CHATEAU LA TOUR CARNET, CHATEAU RAUZY and CHATEAU LATITE are commended to the notice of Connoisseurs as high-class after-dinner wines of a rich and rare character.

Smaller quantities and Sample bottles will be supplied at proportionate wholesale rates.

We guarantee our Wines and Spirits to be genuine only when bought direct from us in the Colony or from our authorised Agents at the Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

MARRIAGE.

On the 9th Feb., at Fookchow, by the Rev. Llewellyn Lloyd, WILLIAM PITCHER, of Fookchow, to CAROLINE, widow of Arthur Wellesley Walsingham.

DEATHS.

On the 15th February at 7 a.m., at No. 2, College Gardens, Upper Albert Road, MARY, the beloved Wife of James H. Cox, aged 61 1/2 years.

At Fookchow, on the 8th February, Mrs. FRANK SCHNEIDER, widow of the late FRANK SCHNEIDER.

The publication of this issue commenced at 5.00 p.m.

The China Mail.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1901.

Editorial Comment.

Dr. E. J. Dillon came out to China, and went up to Peking some weeks or months after the foreign troops had relieved the besieged Legations. Having seen the terrible effects of modern warfare, Dr. Dillon returned to London, and wrote a very interesting article for the *Contemporary Review* under the attractive heading of 'The Chinese Wolf and the European Lamb.' Without any personal knowledge whatsoever of the conditions under which the foreign troops fought their way to Peking, and with a receptive eye and ear for sensational material for a magazine article, he presents to us a comparison between European and Chinese, and to condemn the foreign troops out of hand. This is scarcely fair. Had Dr. Dillon accompanied Admiral Seymour's first relief expedition, and then the troops led by General Gaselee, we venture to think that he would have approached his subject with a more judicial mind, for he would have learned something of the perils and dangers of warfare, and the peculiar conditions prevailing in North China. We do not for a moment defend the ruthless massacre of women and children. But there is a tendency nowadays for the sensational writer, like Dr. Dillon, to go together certain facts that are true and to cloth them with unimpeachable statements that are absolutely untrue. We are informed by those who were on the spot, and who passed over the country despoiled by Dr. Dillon, that the 'Boxers' and the regular Chinese soldiers in their retreat before the Allied forces perpetrated many of the horrible deeds that are now so unhesitatingly accredited to 'European soldiers.' We are pleased to see that respectable London newspapers are calling for more explicit information from Dr. Dillon, particularly where he alleges that Chinese women committed suicide wholesale to escape the outrages of European officers and men. If he has not made the statement without proof at hand, he has only to produce the proof to bring those brutal Europeans to justice, for we are convinced that the whole of the civilised Powers would co-operate to wipe out the stigma laid at the door of the troops. If, on the other hand, the outrages were committed only by one or two of the nationalities, then the others should not be stigmatised in convenient generalities. As it is now in China, so it was in the Philippine Islands and in South Africa. The sensational-monger is in all climes. War is not a kid-glove affair, and the Europeans must give what they get—within civilised bounds. Innocent men and women doubtless suffered in North China, for where almost every man was a foe in reality or in intent it was difficult for the foreign troops to distinguish. Admiral Seymour and his force had a rough time of it passing through a hostile country, and the Legations in Peking were hard pressed when the relieving force was fighting its way to the Chinese capital, and doubtless the troops had seen many examples of the ferocity and treachery of the Chinese soldiery and peasantry before Peking was reached; and all these factors must be taken into consideration by any man who proposes to write on battlefield scenes. It was a totally different thing for Dr. Dillon to go over the ground some weeks after and to discuss the situation in a semi-philosophical mood, and for a soldier, with the experiences of the moment thick upon him, to have to perform the common work of a soldier face to face with a bloodthirsty and implacable enemy. We repeat that where looting and outrage were perpetrated in cold blood we have no excuse or palliation to offer, but we do say that consideration must be had for the whole of the circumstances under which the advance was made upon Peking before the public accepts the view put forward by Dr. Dillon or any other writer, however eminent. There is grave danger from such writing at the present crisis. The raising of comparisons may obscure the original cause belli, and put the Chinaman in the position of the offended party instead of the offender.

THE Blood is the source from which our systems are built up, and from which we derive our mental as well as our physical capabilities. If the blood is diseased the body is diseased. Sufferers from Scour, Scurvy, Leucæmia, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of every kind are advised to give Claret's world-famed Blood Mixture a trial to taste its value. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold every where at 2s. 9d. per bottle. Beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.

As at present constituted, the Hongkong Government AND OFFICIAL is not likely to commit egregious mistakes because of rashness. The Kowloon Water Supply reports furnish evidence in support of this statement; so does Thursday's official statement regarding the salaries of subordinate Government servants. The delay that has arisen over this question is causing a good deal of speculation among the smaller fry, who even go the length of hinting that, having got their own increase abroad, but there certainly appears to be good reason to depreciate the delay whatever is the cause. When the question of increasing official salaries came before the Legislative Council in the early part of 1900, Mr. T. H. Whiteside refused to vote in favour of the increase to the higher officials until he received an assurance that the more urgent case of the subordinate officials would be considered and increased granted. He was condemned very strongly by one prominent official for his dog-in-the-manger attitude; and the representative of the Chamber of Commerce was eventually won over by a pledge, issued on a telegram from the Secretary of State, that the subordinate officers were included in the increase. The result, so far as the subordinate officers are concerned, is as yet nil. Only the higher officials and the Chinese clerks increased salaries for 1900; the case of the great under-paid is still 'under consideration.' They have given up all hope of a retro-spective increase of salaries for 1900, and, unless the miraculous is to happen, they may have to abandon all hope for 1901. The Committee that enquired into the subject finished its work in July last, and, we believe, suggested increased salaries for 1900. That report left Hongkong for London on the 30th October last, and Mr. Chamberlain's reply, produced on Thursday at the instance of Mr. R. M. Gray, is dated 31st December, 1900. In his reply, Mr. Chamberlain writes:—'I shall be glad if you will consult the heads of departments and the Executive Council, if you have not already done so, and submit a scheme which shall to some extent combine the recommendations of the Committee with those of the Acting Colonial Secretary. Such a scheme shall contain a complete classification of the whole subordinate services, with salaries attached to grades and offices rather than to individual officials. I shall also be glad if you would submit definite recommendations as to the 'systematisation' of their allowances.' So, apparently, another scheme has to be drawn up and another report submitted to the authorities in London before a definite issue can be arrived at. Giving the Colonial Government three months to prepare the new scheme and the Colonial Office three months more to consider it, it will be the month of August before the Colony knows what the Colonial Office thinks of the new scheme; and there is no assurance that even then finality will be reached. When this question was first brought into prominence, it was pointed out that the officials whose salaries were most urgently in need of readjustment were the low-salaried Europeans in Government service, and it is hardly fair to them that the higher officials and Chinese should ride in on the crest of the wave of public approval and appropriate all the benefits.

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